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Westphal.6007
09/748,066



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Zech et al. GROUP: 2833
SERIAL NO: 09/748,066 EXAMINER: Leon, E.
FILED: December 22, 2000
FOR: ELECTRICAL CONNECTOR

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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RESPONSE

This document is in response to the Official Action dated October 3, 2001. A petition for an extension of time is enclosed herewith extending the response period to April 3, 2002.

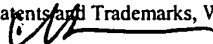
Claims 1-15 are pending.

The rejections shall be taken up in the order presented in the Official Action.

1-2. Claims 1-9 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Pat. 6,280,214 to Chang (hereinafter "Chang").

Chang has an effective filing date of January 27, 2000. The present application has a priority date of December 22, 1999. Since Chang does not constitute prior art to the claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that the anticipation rejection be withdrawn.

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on April 3, 2002 with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.


Christie A. Mims